



CITY OF **Mountain View**
Newsletter

Find your City of Mountain View
Recycling Resource and
Recreation Guide inside
this issue of **The View!**

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

Green Mountain View— Launching the City’s Environmental Sustainability Program

This Fall, the City Council took two major steps to expand efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), promoting environmental sustainability for the City and within the community. In September, the Council approved an initiative to help implement both short- and long-term GHG reduction efforts, including measuring current emissions in order to set goals for future reductions. In October, the Council voted to endorse the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, joining more than 600 cities across the country to commit to working to reduce GHG emissions.

Help Create a Sustainable Community!

Become a member of Mountain View’s new Environmental Sustainability Task Force and help develop a community-wide action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a sustainable City!

For more information visit
mountainview.gov
or call Public works at
(650) 903-6311

The initiative includes the hiring of a Sustainability Coordinator for one year to focus on these efforts. The Coordinator will work with a Sustainable Task Force to advise the Council on potential actions. A more detailed summary of potential emissions reduction actions can be found in the “Environmental Sustainability Report” to the City Council on the City’s website at www.mountainview.gov. Funding approved for this initiative will also allow the City to collaborate with regional expert organizations—Sustainable Silicon Valley (SSV) and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) for assistance with strategic planning GHG reduction efforts.

The City Council’s vision is for the City’s numerous existing environmental efforts and investments (solar power, alternative-fuel vehicles, energy efficiency, award-winning transit-oriented development and urban reforestation, and more) to be supplemented and developed into a long-term sustainability program that will enhance Mountain View’s natural environment to serve as an example for residents and businesses to think and act sustainably. Every resident and business is encouraged to participate in this effort!

For more information about the City’s environmental sustainability efforts, call the City Manager’s Office at (650) 903-6301 or visit the website at mountainview.gov.

City support for Environmental Sustainability includes:

- **Landfill gas-powered micro turbines** producing electricity for City buildings in Shoreline Park, while making excess electricity available to the power grid;
- **Landfill gas supplied for energy production** to a large business at 1900 Charleston Road in Mountain View, projected to reduce CO2 emissions by 17.3 million pounds in ten years;
- **Replacement of the City’s incandescent traffic signals with LED lighting**, reducing energy demand by approximately 64 kilowatts annually;
- **Use of low-sulfur and bio-diesel fuel** to reduce diesel emissions beginning in 2004 and continued research into the possible use of bio-diesel fuel;
- **Installation of a 90-kilowatt photovoltaic (solar power)** system on the California Avenue

Parking Structure to power the building’s lighting and elevator;

- **Installation of solar powered pumps** to circulate water in City reservoirs and at the Shoreline Sailing Lake;
- **Award-winning Transit Oriented projects** that concentrate housing and jobs near transit to reduce the need for cars;
- **Completion of a Downtown Transit Center** linking Cal Train, light-rail and bus service and bringing “Baby Bullet” Cal Train service to downtown;
- **“Bicycle-Friendly Community”** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and construction of a demonstration bicycle boulevard;



Mountain View City’s fleet now includes eighteen hybrid vehicles (below); Panels of the solar power system at the California Ave. parking structure (right)



The Annual Mountain View Tree Lighting Celebration will be held on Monday December 3, from 6 pm–8 pm at Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro St. For more details, see page 5.



inside this issue:

- 2 [Stevens Creek Trail Moves Forward](#)
- 3 [General Plan Update](#)
- 4 [Volunteer Opportunities/Calendar of Events](#)
- 5 [Mountain View Celebrates the Holidays](#)
- 6 [Public Safety News](#)
- 7 [Celebrate Arbor Day](#)
- 8 [Center for the Performing Arts Schedule](#)

- **Designation as a “Tree City USA”** community for educational outreach, volunteerism, and urban reforestation;
- **Sierra Club recognition of City building permit practices** that make solar electricity more accessible to middle-income buyers, and
- **Implementation of green building practices** in new City facilities, including the new Senior Center and the new Shoreline Maintenance Facility, with recent certification of City Hall as a ‘Green Business’ by the Bay Area Green Business program.

For more information about the City’s environmental sustainability efforts, call the City Manager’s Office at (650) 903-6301.

More Green Mountain View, see page 2

Mountain View's Commitment to "Solar Friendly" Policies and Programs recognized!

The City was recently honored for its environmental sustainability commitment with a "City Solar Award." The Northern California Solar Energy Association created the City Solar Awards (CSA) to recognize cities for the amount of solar photovoltaic (solar or PV) technology installed based on the total amount of grid-tied solar or PV installations as of December 31, 2006. The award categories were: (1) number of solar installations; (2) total amount of watts installed, and (3) watts per capita. To compare cities equitably the awards were given to small (population of 10,000 and less), medium (10,000-50,000), and large (50,000 and more) cities. All Bay Area cities were eligible for the awards. The City of Mountain View recently received third place honors in the "watts per capita" category for large cities!

Green City Hall

Mountain View City Hall has received Green Business certification from the Bay Area Green Business Program. To be certified, businesses must operate in an environmentally responsible manner and meet, or exceed, standards for conserving natural resources, preventing pollution and minimizing solid waste.

The Bay Area Green Business Program is a partnership of environmental agencies and utilities assisting, recognizing and promoting businesses and government agencies that volunteer to operate in a more environmentally responsible way. For more information about the Green Business Program, contact the Solid Waste Program at (650) 903-6311.



Cooperative Environmental Sustainability Efforts

In an effort to reduce harmful emissions, the City's contracted provider of City's refuse collection services, Foothill Disposal, began running its fleet with a biodiesel blend in October 2007. Biodiesel is a clean burning alternative fuel made from domestic, renewable resources, such as vegetable oil. The company's trucks are using a blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% petroleum diesel.

The View is published three times a year (March, September and December) by the City of Mountain View.

The View is delivered by bulk mail to every residential address and many businesses in Mountain View.

Mountain View City Council

Mayor: Laura Macias
Vice Mayor: Tom Means

Councilmembers:

Margaret Abe-Koga
Ronit Bryant
Nick Galiotto
Matt Pear
Jac Siegel

Kevin Duggan, City Manager

The View • P.O. Box 395, Mountain View, CA 94039 • (650) 903-6301

City web page

mountainview.gov

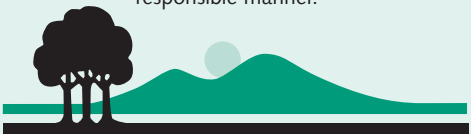
Extra Copies

A limited supply of extra copies of *The View* is available at City Hall, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, and the Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue.

The View is printed on 30 percent post-consumer recycled paper.

City Mission Statement

The City of Mountain View provides quality services and facilities that meet the needs of a caring and diverse community in a financially responsible manner.



More Fun In Store Outdoors in Mountain View!

New Sierra Vista Avenue Mini-Park

Construction of a new mini-park at 859 Sierra Vista Avenue should be complete by the end of the year. Intended to serve the City's North Middlefield/Rengstorff neighborhood, the new .8-acre mini-park was designed with suggestions from local residents who attended two community meetings to offer their input and ideas.

The new park will feature an open lawn area, picnic tables and several play structures. The 5- to 12-year-olds' structure will include ground-to-ground arches and suspended play components such as bouncy cables, hanging ring climbers, rocking benches and a tangle of loops. A smaller structure for 2- to 5-year-olds will include bridges, decks, a tunnel and slide. The park will also offer a sand and water play feature and swings, designed to serve both toddlers and older school-aged children.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at (650) 903-6331.

Stevens Creek Trail—Moving Forward

The next reach of the Stevens Creek trail, running from Yuba Drive to the south side of El Camino Real, is expected to open this spring. The trail extension includes the construction of a pedestrian/bicycle tunnel under El Camino Real near the intersection of El Camino Real and Highway 85, as well as improvements to the trailhead at Yuba Drive.

The Stevens Creek Trail is a bike and pedestrian path that runs along Stevens Creek in Mountain View and is part of a larger network of trails throughout the Bay Area. When finished, the trail in Mountain View will stretch from Mountain View High School to the Bay.

Design work is also underway for the final phase of the Trail project that will extend the Trail from the south side of El Camino Real to the Sleeper Avenue open space and over Highway 85 to a landing area at the junction of Dale Avenue and Heatherstone Way. Construction of this future segment will be divided into two construction phases.

The first phase of the final segment of the Trail, from El Camino Real to Sleeper Avenue, is scheduled to begin construction in summer 2008 and take about a

Additional Parkland Acquired

Mountain View has purchased land for two new mini-parks, small City parks designed to serve local neighborhoods. The City acquired .35 acres in the Del Medio neighborhood and .4 acre in the Central neighborhood for future development as park space. The properties were acquired using park in-lieu fees contributed from development projects in their respective areas.

Mini-parks are designed to help ensure an even distribution of open space and recreational opportunities throughout the community. Mini-parks are developed in concert with neighborhood residents' input and often feature picnic areas, open lawn space and play features for children.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at (650) 903-6331.



year to complete. It will include the construction of a pedestrian bridge over Stevens Creek.

The second phase will extend the trail further south along Stevens Creek, then over Highway 85 by way of a concrete pedestrian overcrossing bridge at Dale Avenue and Heatherstone Way. This second phase is yet to be funded.

Construction plans are also nearing completion for the Moffett Boulevard pedestrian overcrossing. This project will eliminate the only at-grade street crossing of the existing Stevens Creek Trail system. It is anticipated that construction of the pedestrian overcrossing structure will begin in early 2008 and take one year to complete.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.

Residential Development Updates



Mountain View is currently evaluating a number of new development projects are underway to increase available housing throughout the city. For more information on any of the following projects, including upcoming public meetings, contact the Community Development Department at (650) 903-6306.

- **Satake Nursery:** The Development Review Committee recommended approval in July of design plans for the development of single family homes on the 6.3-acre property known as Satake Nursery at 1079 Marilyn Drive. The plans allow for the development of up to 37 single family units on the site. Public hearings before the Zoning Administrator and the City Council are the next step in the approval process.
- **South Whisman Area:** The City is considering the rezoning of industrial land in the South Whisman Area for residential uses. A Draft Precise Plan and Environmental Impact Report are currently being

prepared for the site, and will be reviewed by the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) next year. Following the review and recommendations of the EPC, public hearings on the rezoning will be held.

- **Grant/Levin Project:** The City has begun the annexation process for a 15.6-acre site at 3119 Grant Road near Levin Avenue. The property has been prezoned as Single-Family Residential. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the development project. Future phases of the project include public review and comment on the Draft EIR, Zoning Administrator hearings and Council hearings in 2008 on the EIR and development project.

Affordable Family Housing Site Selected

The City Council has selected a site for an affordable family housing development at the southeast corner

continues next page

Honors for Mountain View:

Graham Reservoir and Sports Complex Wins Environmental Award

The new Graham Reservoir and Sports Complex has received the “Environmental Outstanding Project of the Year Award” from the San Francisco section of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The award recognizes the City’s accomplishments in constructing an 8-million gallon below-ground reservoir to increase local water resources while providing a new sports complex on top of the reservoir. The new athletic amenities include an all-weather track, synthetic turf soccer field/football field, a natural turf multi-use field, and basketball and volleyball courts.



The reservoir and sports facilities are located at Graham Middle School. The project was a joint effort of the City of Mountain View and Mountain View-Whisman School District. In exchange for the City building and maintaining the sports complex, the School District provided the location for the water reservoir and makes the complex available for community use during non-school hours. The project was recognized for increasing the community’s water storage capacity while creatively working to provide a state-of-the-art sports complex for broad public use.

For more information regarding the Graham Reservoir and Sports Complex, call the Community Service Department at (650) 903-6331.

City Programs Win National Recognition

The National League of Cities selected two Mountain View programs to feature at its annual “City Showcase” exhibition this year in New Orleans. The City’s multi-lingual Community Outreach Program and Mountain View’s partnership with Google, Inc., to provide no cost communitywide WiFi services were both chosen as outstanding examples of innovative efforts to serve the local community.

The multi-lingual Community Outreach Program provides information on Mountain View programs and services to residents in four languages—English, Russian, Spanish, and Chinese—at meetings, special events and via telephone and email. The Mountain View/Google partnership provides a no-cost wireless Internet network that can be accessed almost anywhere in Mountain View. It also provides the community with expanded Internet availability inside City facilities such as the Library, Senior Center, and City Hall.

For more information on the programs featured in this year’s City Showcase, contact the Office of the City Manager at (650) 903-6210.



Mountain View Begins an Update of its General Plan

On May 1, 2007, the City Council established its goal for updating the City’s General Plan. A General Plan must contain goals, policies, and plans for land use, circulation, open space and conservation of resources, housing, public safety, and noise among other issues. A General Plan is more than a planning document; it is also a long-term vision of the community. The City Council, Commissions, City staff refer regularly to the General Plan for guidance in making development decisions or recommendations. It is also a fundamental technique to communicate to the public, as well as property owners and developers the City’s vision for the physical evolution of the community.

The City’s current General Plan was last updated in 1992. It contains important guidance on design principles that apply to projects in our community. To lead this important initiative forward, the City Council appointed a Subcommittee comprised of three Councilmembers that City Staff will work with to determine the scope and timing of the update.

Key initial steps identified for the General Plan update in FY 2007-08 include:

- Assess legal compliance of Mountain View’s current General Plan and identify any additional requirements related to an update of the General Plan
- Review best practices in other communities
- Begin defining a process for a community-wide visioning

The General Plan Update will involve community input, special meetings, and studies. A joint Study Session of the City Council and Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) will be held by the end of the year to hear a report on legal compliance and best practices. Important future steps also include discussions with the City Council and the EPC on community-wide visioning, outreach, and input throughout the update process to be implemented in 2008.

For further information on the General Plan Update, please contact the Community Development Department, at (650) 903-6306.

Residential Development, continued from page 2

of West Evelyn Avenue and Franklin Street in the downtown area. The 1.03-acre parcel is owned by the City. Zoning would allow a development of approximately 50 apartments on the site.

Six developers are currently under consideration for the project. The Council is expected to hear public input on the selection of the developer and discuss choices at a future regularly scheduled meeting. Design architects for the project will be selected in spring 2008. Before beginning the design process, the City will host meetings to gather community comments and ideas for design of the new housing project.

If you would like to be notified about upcoming public meetings regarding the project, please contact Adriana Garefalos, in the Community Development Department, at (650) 903-6379 or email adriana.garefalos@mountainview.gov.

New Services in the Downtown– Ample Parking Available!

Longs Pharmacy opened a new store in late September in Downtown as part of the City’s new parking structure on the northeast corner of California and Bryant Streets. The five-level structure provides more than 400 free parking spaces, and was designed to include retail space, such as the wide array of services available at Longs.

For more information regarding the parking structure, call the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.



Shop in Mountain View this holiday season!

Connecting with your community

VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROGRAM

The City of Mountain View's Volunteer Services Program gives you the opportunity to turn your special talents and abilities into positive action. For more information, call Rae Blasquez, Coordinator of Volunteer Services, at (650) 903-6607 or visit www.mountainview.gov to download a volunteer application.

Current Volunteer Opportunities



Deer Hollow Farm

School Year Teaching Docents—Volunteers are needed to teach small groups of elementary school children about the farm, garden, and Native American studies. Training is provided and no experience is necessary. School year classes are held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from September through May. Training is also available throughout the school year. For more information, call (650) 903-6430 or email dhfarms@mountainview.gov

Senior Services

Brown Bag Program—Volunteers are needed to help with the Second Harvest Food Bank's Brown Bag program—a weekly Tuesday morning food assistance program for low-income seniors at the Mountain View Senior Center. For more information, contact Megan Garverick at (650) 903-6448 or email seniorcenter@mountainview.gov.

Computer Lab—Volunteers are needed to supervise the drop-in program at the new technology center at the Mountain View Senior Center. Contact Megan Garverick at (650) 903-6448 or email seniorcenter@mountainview.gov

A.S.A.P. (Assisting Seniors in the Arts Program)—Help local seniors attend events at the Performing Arts Center by providing transportation. Free tickets will be given to the volunteer driver and senior participant in an effort to give seniors the opportunity to attend quality performances. For more information, contact Megan Garverick at (650) 903-6448 or email seniorcenter@mountainview.gov

City Clerk's Office

Office Assistant—Volunteers are needed to help with distributing council packets, preparing mail, general filing, copying, data entry, preparing records for off-site storage, and souvenir inventory. Computer experience is required. For more information, call (650) 903-6607.

Visual Marketing

Graphic Design—City offices need help creating display boards and other visual marketing tools. Hours and days are flexible. Call the Volunteer Services Office for more information or email rae.blasquez@mountainview.gov

Library

Children's Services—Assistance is needed with sorting and shelving books, videos, and more in numerical and alphabetical order. Minimum age is 13. Contact Maynard Martinez at (650) 526-7043 or email maynard.martinez@mountainview.gov

continued on page 5

Mountain View Calendar

December

- 3 Annual Holiday Tree Lighting**—Civic Center Plaza 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- 4 Historic Rengstorff House Holiday Celebration**, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., 3070 N. Shoreline Boulevard
 - Parks and Recreation Commission**, 7:00 p.m., Library Community Room, 585 Franklin Street
- 5 Environmental Planning Commission**, 7:00 p.m., CC
- 6 Human Relations Commission**, 6:30 p.m., PCR
- 8 Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off** in San Jose. Call (408) 299-7300 for an appointment.
- 11 City Council**, 6:30 p.m., CC
- 12 Visual Arts Committee**, 6:00 p.m., ACR
- 17 Library Board**, 7:30 p.m., Library Community Room, 585 Franklin Street
- 19 Environmental Planning Commission**, TBA
 - Performing Arts Advisory Committee**, 7:00 p.m., location TBA
- 24 City offices closed** for Christmas Holiday.
- 25 City offices closed** for Christmas Holiday.

January

- 1 City offices closed** for New Year's Holiday.
- 2 Environmental Planning Commission**, TBA
- 8 City Council**, 6:30 p.m., CC
- 9 Visual Arts Committee**, 6:00 p.m., ACR
 - Parks and Recreation Commission**, 7:00 p.m., Library Community Room, 585 Franklin Street

- 16 Environmental Planning Commission**, TBA
 - Performing Arts Advisory Committee**, 7:00 p.m., location TBA
- 18 Deadline for Arbor Day Tree Applications.** (See related story in this issue.)
- 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.** City offices closed.
- 22 City Council**, 6:30 p.m., CC
- 30 Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee**, 6:30 p.m., PCR

February

- 6 Environmental Planning Commission**, TBA
- 7 Human Relations Commission**, 6:30 p.m., PCR
- 12 City Council**, 6:30 p.m., CC
- 13 Visual Arts Committee**, 6:00 p.m., ACR
 - Parks and Recreation Commission**, 7:00 p.m., Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue
- 18 Presidents' Day.** City offices closed.
- 20 Environmental Planning Commission**, TBA
 - Performing Arts Advisory Committee**, 7:00 p.m., location TBA
- 26 City Council**, 6:30 p.m., CC
- 27 Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee**, 6:30 p.m., PCR

* ABBREVIATION GUIDE:

CC Council Chambers, City Hall
PCR Plaza Conference Room, City Hall
ACR Atrium Conference Room, City Hall

*Please Note: All dates are subject to change. Contact the City Clerk's Office at (650) 903-6304 to confirm dates and times.

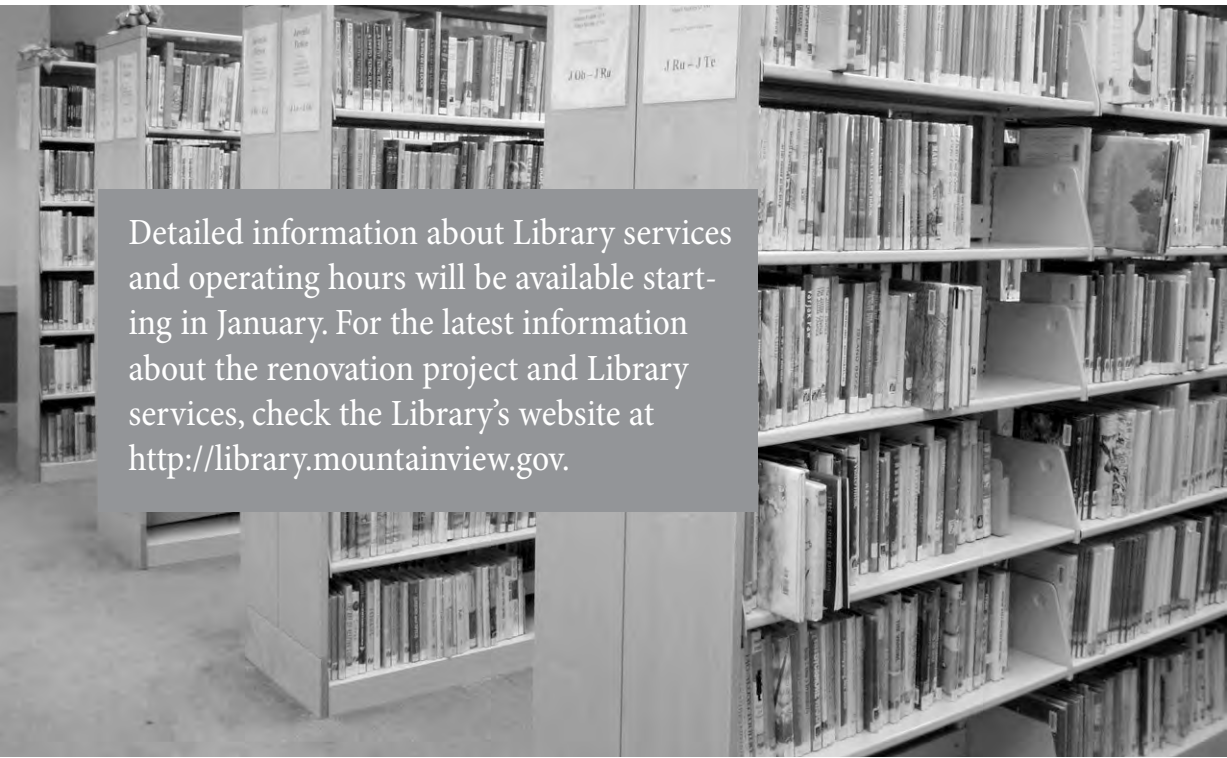
Mountain View Community News

Library Temporarily Closing for Renovations (February 3–March 2, 2008)

The Mountain View Public Library will be closed temporarily for automation upgrades and remodeling from February 3rd–March 2nd. The upgrades include a radio frequency identification system for tagging library materials, along with an automated materials handling system. Both of these new technologies will speed up the check-in and check-out of library materials. The remodeling will include additional seating space, expanded quiet areas, more room for the teen, media and language collections, and an additional group study room.

During the 4-week closure, limited Library service will be available at the Mobile Library Service vehicle, which will be located in the Library's parking lot. Customers will be able to check out any of the 2500 items stored on the vehicle, as well as return books and pick up books that have been reserved. Online services and resources will continue to be available.

Telephone information about Library services will be available Monday – Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., by calling (650) 903-6335.



Detailed information about Library services and operating hours will be available starting in January. For the latest information about the renovation project and Library services, check the Library's website at <http://library.mountainview.gov>.

Home for the Holidays in Mountain View!

Annual Tree Lighting Celebration

Come celebrate with your friends and family at the Mountain View Tree Lighting Celebration on Monday, December 3rd, from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro Street. This annual, free event features live holiday music, refreshments, holiday lights, and the chance for children to have their picture taken with Santa. Entertainment begins at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Tree Lighting and Santa’s arrival shortly after.

In the spirit of the season, everyone is encouraged to bring a can of food to donate to the Share the Cheer Holiday Food Drive, which benefits the Mountain View Community Services Agency.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at (650) 903-6331.

Rengstorff House Holiday Celebration

Mountain View’s historic Rengstorff House, located in Shoreline Park at 3070 North Shoreline Boulevard, will usher in the holiday season with an open house on December 4th, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of ‘R’ House, this free even will feature authentic Victorian decorations, caroling around the piano, holiday treats and eggnog.

For more information, call (650) 903-6392 or check the Friends’ web site: www.r-house.org.



Holiday Events at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

Holiday magic’s in the air at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts with theater, dance and music. For tickets and information call (650) 903-6000 or visit mvcpa.com.

November 23 - 25
Pacific Theatre Ballet presents
The Nutcracker

November 28 - December 2
Smuin Ballet presents
The Christmas Ballet, 2007 Edition

December 7 - 9
Western Ballet presents
The Nutcracker

December 10
Schola Cantorum presents
Messiah Sing

December 11
Quadre–The Voice of Four Horns presents
Horns for the Holidays

December 14 & 15
Peninsula Youth Theatre Stories on Stage presents
The Reluctant Dragon

December 16
Z Space Studio presents
The Sippy Cups, LIVE!
A Rock & Roll Holiday for Families

December 21
Yaelisa & Caminos Flamencos presents
Jardin de Mis Sueños

December 22
Silicon Valley Ai-Yue Chorus presents
Joyful Concert

Preschool Programs at the Library

The Mountain View Library will offer a series of free drop-in programs designed especially for preschoolers this Winter. All programs run from 10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in the Library Community Room, 585 Franklin Street.Baby Steps Up (18-24 month olds)—Fridays, January 25, February 1, and March 7, 14.

2 YEAR-OLDS
Thursdays, January, 31 and March 6, 13

3 YEAR-OLDS
Wednesdays, January 23, 30 and March 5, 12

4 YEAR-OLDS
Tuesdays, January 22, 29 and March 4, 11

For more information, call Children’s Services at (650) 903-6897.-

Library Improves On-line Services

This Fall, the Library is adding new features to its on-line catalog to help customers find out more about books that interest them. Readers will be able to find book jacket images, tables of content pages, book summaries and reviews online.

Two other service enhancements are also planned. A floor-plan photo feature will show customers where items are located. An E-commerce feature will enable Library users to pay online from home or in the Library, as well as make a donation to the Library.

For more information, call the Library at (650) 903-6335.



VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROGRAM

continued from page 4

Circulation Services—Volunteers are needed to help shelf videos and DVDs in the Adult Media section of the library. Hours are flexible. For more information, contact Maynard Martinez at (650) 526-7043 or email maynard.martinez@mountainview.gov

Shoreline at Mountain View

A variety of opportunities to work in the City’s largest park are available for volunteers 18 and older. For more information on the following positions, contact Kristina Rockhold at (650) 903-6073 or kristina.rockhold@mountainview.gov.

Rengstorff House Docents greet visitors and conduct guided tours of the House. The House is open Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Staffing is in three-hour shifts and training is provided.

Gatehouse Rangers greet visitors, monitor park activities, and educate the public about Shoreline policies. Opportunities are available seven-days-a-week with staffing in three-hour shifts.

Patrol Rangers assist trail users by providing information and keeping the trails free of litter. Trails are open seven-days-a-week and hours are flexible.

Upcoming Opportunities

Holiday Tree Lighting

Special Event – Volunteers are needed to help with the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting event at Civic Center Plaza on Monday, December 3rd. Assist with refreshments, Santa pictures, decorations, or work as a crowd monitor. The event runs 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more information, call (650) 903-6607.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW WAYS THAT YOU CAN GET INVOLVED. IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA, OR SPECIAL SKILL OR TALENT TO OFFER, OR WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM, PLEASE CALL THE VOLUNTEER SERVICES OFFICE TODAY AT (650) 903-6607.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CITYGRAM

How are we doing? Feedback from you is very important to us. Curious about a City service or program? Have an idea you’d like to share? Know a City employee who did a particularly good job? The City Manager’s Office would like to hear from you. Send your remarks on a Citygram and you will receive a prompt response from the appropriate City department.

Thank you for your comments.

Send comments to the Mountain View City Manager’s Office, P.O. Box 7540, Mountain View, CA 94039

NAME

DATE

ADDRESS

ZIP CODE

DAYTIME PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

I WOULD LIKE A REPLY:

- ☐ by telephone
☐ by mail
☐ by email
☐ no reply necessary

For City Staff use:

Public Safety News

Cops That Care



Members of the Mountain View Police Department are preparing for the 4th Annual Cops That Care Program, a project that collects and distributes gifts for children each holiday season.

The Police Department is asking for community donations of toys for any age child, or gift certificates for teenagers. The presents must be new and unwrapped. They may be dropped off at the Police Department at 1000 Villa Street between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. through December 22nd.

Children from throughout our community, who may not have presents under their trees, are invited to bring their parents and select a gift on Saturday, December 23rd from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Police Department.

For more information, contact Public Information Officer, Liz Wiley at (650) 903-6357.

Gang Prevention Efforts

The Police Department’s Gang Suppression Team provides classes and information for Mountain View parents, students and community members on gang-related issues. Classes are held throughout the community in schools, community centers and churches. For more information on resources and information about preventing gang activity, call the Police Department at (650) 903-6357.

Become an Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer

The Fire Department invites citizens to become part of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) by taking a free training course in disaster preparedness. CERT training gives citizens the ability to safely help themselves, their family, and their neighbors in the event of an emergency or major disaster.

CERT classes are taught by trained professionals and emphasized hands-on, practical skills. Topics covered include:

- Disaster preparedness
- Fire Suppression
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Search and Rescue
- Team Organization
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism



Upcoming CERT Classes:

The Fire Department will offer CERT training five times in the upcoming year. You can register by calling the Mountain View Fire Department at (650) 903-6378. Or, find out more about emergency preparedness by visiting the City’s website at www.mountainview.gov.

Session 1: Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 6 plus Saturday, March 8 from 1- 4 p.m.

Session 2: Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on April 12, 19 and 26 (1-4 p.m. only) (This class will be held at Fire Station # 4, located at 229 North Whisman Road)

Session 3: Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. on May 13, 20, 27 June 3, 10 plus Saturday, June 14 from 1-4 p.m.

Session 4: Wednesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. on September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15 plus Saturday, October 18 from 1- 4 p.m.

Session 5: Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on November 1, 8 and 15 (1-4 p.m. only)

All classes will be held at 1000 Villa Street unless otherwise noted.

Winter Season Tips

Even though the chilly, rainy season is already here—it is never too late to be prepared, as well as be conservation minded. The City of Mountain View wants you to be prepared!

Prepare for the Winter Storm Season

The City recommends that you take the following precautions in the event of heavy storms and flooding during the Winter rainy season:

- **Obtain necessary sandbags.** The City will make sand and sandbags available at no charge to any Mountain View resident beginning with the first storm of the season or no later than November 1 at the Municipal Operations Center, 231 North Whisman Road. Residents should bring a shovel to fill the sandbags.
- **Report flooding or standing water.** Contact the Public Services Division, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at (650) 903-6329. After hours and on weekends, call the Emergency Communications Center at (650) 903-6395.
- **Report downed street trees or limbs.** Contact the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at (650) 903-6273. After hours and on weekends, call the Emergency Communications Center at (650) 903-6395.



- **Do not touch downed power lines.** Assume all downed power lines are dangerous and call both 911 and PG&E at 1-(800)-743-5000 immediately. Also, tune to your local radio station for power outage updates.

For answers to your questions regarding weather precautions and damage, call the Public Services Division at (650) 903-6329.

Protection from Flood Risk

Twelve percent of the City of Mountain View is located within special flood hazard areas. Flooding in these areas is caused by tidal flooding from the Bay and flooding from Permanente Creek. Here are suggestions for things you can do protect yourself and your property in the event of flooding.

Flood Safety: There are several actions residents of flood hazard areas can take to decrease the potential of injury due to flooding.

- Do not walk through flowing waters.
- Do not drive through a flooded area.
- Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.
- Have your electricity turned off by the Power Company. Don’t use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried.
- Look before you step. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.
- Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Do not smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames unless you know the gas have been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

Flood Insurance: Standard homeowner’s insurance policies do not cover losses due to floods. However, the City of Mountain View is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program, which makes it possible for property owners to obtain federally-backed flood insurance. This insurance is available to any owner of insurable property (a building or its contents). Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss. The City also participates in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. Based on activities implemented by the City to reduce risk from flooding, and which exceed the minimum standards of the National Flood Insurance Program, the community qualifies for a 10 percent discount for National Flood Insurance policies issued or renewed. The actual cost of insurance will vary depending upon the amount of coverage and degree of flood hazard. This insurance is required in certain instances, such as the purchase of a home with a federally-backed mortgage. Individuals should contact their insurance companies for flood insurance costs.

Property Protection Measures: There are various actions that can be taken to flood proof structures. Electrical panel boxes, furnaces, water heaters and washer/dryers should be elevated or relocated to a location less likely to be flooded. Basement floor drains and interior and exterior backwater valves can be installed, and interior flood walls can be placed around utilities. If flooding is likely, and time permits, move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home. Keep materials like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, and lumber handy for emergency waterproofing. This action will help minimize the amount of damage caused by flood waters.

continues next page

Celebrate Arbor Day 2008



The City of Mountain View celebrates Arbor Day on Saturday, March 8, in Pioneer Park with a variety of events, including tree planting. The City also plans to make approximately 125 new trees available to individual residents this year for planting on their property.

The planting event is part of the City’s forestry restoration efforts and the celebration of the State of California’s Arbor Day.

Residents who wish to participate in the tree planting must fill out and submit the request form included in this issue of *The View* by 5:00 p.m. on January 18th, and agree to plant and maintain the tree on their property. If the number of requests for trees exceeds the number of trees available, names will be drawn at random. The City will deliver the tree of choice to eligible residents during the week of March 3rd.

RESIDENTS MAY CHOOSE FROM FIVE VARIETIES OF TREES:

- **The Red Maple** is a deciduous tree that requires full sun, steady watering and will grow to 50 feet with leaves that range from yellow to red in the fall.
- **The Krauter Plum** is a deciduous tree that requires full sun, moderate watering, grows to 20 feet and blooms with light pink flowers.
- **The Brisbane Box** is an evergreen tree with inconspicuous flowers that can tolerate some shade, has low watering requirements and grows up to 40 feet high.
- **The Crape Myrtle** is a deciduous tree with showy, pink summer flowers. It grows to approximately 25 feet high.
- **The Chinese Pistache** is a deciduous tree that requires full sun, moderate watering, and grows to 40 feet with leaves that turn red, yellow and orange in the fall.

For more information about Arbor Day activities, call the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division at (650) 903-6273.

ARBOR DAY 2008
TREES

NAME

ADDRESS

DAYTIME PHONE

TREE PLANTING ADDRESS

TYPE OF TREE REQUESTED (LIST ABOVE)

PLANTING LOCATION OF ARBOR DAY TREE
(Examples: southwest corner of backyard, center of front lawn, backyard garden)


The undersigned agrees to: (1) accept the tree requested above, (2) plant the tree as indicated on application, (3) maintain the tree at own expense (tree planting/care information will be supplied).

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION BY MAIL BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2008.

Send to:
City of Mountain View, Forestry Division
P.O. Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540
Office Use Only. Date Received:



Winter Season Tips, *continued from page 2*

Flood Map Information. The City will provide the public, lending institutions, real estate agents and insurance agents with the flood map information indicated below upon request. Call (650) 903-6311 during normal business hours or visit the Public Works Department at City Hall for the following information:

- Whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area;
- Additional flood insurance data for a site such as the Flood Insurance Rate Map Zone, base flood elevation or depth, and elevation certificates, and
- A handout on the flood insurance purchase requirements.

Reminder to Conserve Water This Winter

The Winter of 2006 was one of the driest on record and water reserves are far below normal levels. This past summer, customers were asked to reduce consumption by ten percent. Despite current efforts to reduce water consumption, additional voluntary water conservation measures, and perhaps mandatory water rationing, may still be required in 2008, if there is another winter with below-normal precipitation levels.

To learn more about how to conserve water at your home or business, visit the City’s website at www.mountainview.gov or <http://conservewater.mountainview.gov>. For further information call the City’s Water Resources Technician at (650) 903-6269.

TIPS FOR CONSERVING WATER:

Mountain View residents can help conserve one of our most important resources by using these simple tips each day to reduce water usage. Please do your part by adopting water-wise habits.

- Turn off the water tap while brushing your teeth or shaving;
- Take shorter showers;
- Install aerators in your kitchen and bathroom faucets;
- Do not allow the hose to run as you wash your car, driveway or sidewalk;
- Make sure your plumbing is not broken or defective; (A running toilet can waste two gallons of water per minute or as much as 7,000 gallons per month;)
- Be sure that your sprinklers are adjusted to water plants, not pavement;
- Plant water-wise, drought-tolerant gardens and only water as much as needed. Irrigate during the evening hours;
- Operate clothes washers and dishwashers with full loads only, even if the washers have adjustable load settings, and

- Replace old toilets, showerheads and clothes washers with new, higher efficiency fixtures and appliances.

Contact the City’s Water Resources Technician at (650) 903-6269 for answers to your water conservation questions.

Winter Reminder—Help Reduce Fireplace Pollution

In order to help ensure cleaner air for everyone, pollution experts recommend you minimize use of your fireplace this Winter. If you do light a fire, follow these guidelines provided by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District:

- Burn a mix of softwoods, hardwoods, and pressed logs.
- Burn only seasoned firewood. Firewood should dry 6 to 12 months minimum after splitting.
- Do not burn garbage, plastics, rubber, waste solvents, paint or oil, painted or treated wood, particleboard, plywood, or saltwater driftwood, coal or charcoal briquettes, or glossy or colored paper.
- Build a small hot fire and let it burn out completely before bedtime. Burning overnight is a major fire hazard and pollutes all night.

For a copy of the Woodburning Handbook, with detailed information about how to burn safely and heat with wood, visit <http://www.sparetheair.org/wbh/wbh01.htm>.